

THE BULLETIN



A Publication of the Overseas Press Club of America • Hotel Biltmore, 55 East 43rd Street, N.Y. 10017 • (212) 687-2430

COMMITTEES REVIVED, NEW ONES ORGANIZED

At the OPC's Board of Governors meeting, President *Jack Raymond* announced the following new or revived committees and their chairmen:

Membership Committee. *Charles Brophy*, newly appointed chairman.

Memorial Committee to commemorate the memory of OPC members who have passed away during the year. *Will Oursler*, chairman; committee member, *Anita Diamant Berke*.

Program Council (revived). *Larry Blochman*, chairman.

House Operations Committee. *Ruth C. Biemiller*, chairman.

Hospitality Committee. *Ruth C. C. Biemiller*, chairman.

OPC Foundation (revived). *Joe Peters*, chairman. *Art Milton* and *Will Oursler* ad hoc committee members.

Cinema Committee. *Will Yolen*, temporary chairman.

CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 17 — OPC-NBC World News Conference — 11:45 a.m., cocktails in the OPC; 12:15 Noon, lunch in the Grand Ballroom. Luncheon \$10.50 for reservations beginning on December 10. Includes tax and gratuities.

Thursday, December 19, 5:30-10 p.m. — OPC's 1974 Holiday House Party. Door Prizes. Cash bar. (Page 1).

Friday, December 20, 12 Noon — Deadline: OPC Bulletin of January 1.

Wednesday, December 25 — OPC office, bar and dining room will be closed.

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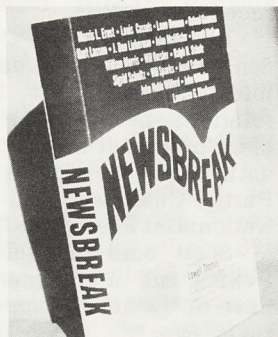
Friday, January 3, 5 p.m.-8 p.m. — A 'Book Bash,' celebrating publication of the new OPC hard-cover book, *Newsbreak*. Seventeen OPC authors will be guests of honor. Host: Clyde Peters, Executive VP, Stackpole Books. Chairman: *Anita Diamant Berke*. Cash bar. (Page 1).

RESERVATIONS: Please call Mary Novick, 687-2430. Reservation cancellations must reach the OPC 24 hours before the event, otherwise members will be charged the announced fee.

'BOOK BASH' TO FETE 'NEWSBREAK'

By ROLAND GAMMON

The publication of *Newsbreak*, the 10th book to be written by authors of the Overseas Press Club, will be celebrated with a "Book Bash" on Friday evening, Jan. 3, from 5 to 8 p.m., according to an announcement today by *Will H. Yolen*, publishing committee chairman. The 17 OPC authors, who wrote the historic news stories featured in the book, will



be guests of honor at the reception as will *Lowell Thomas*, a club past president, who wrote the introduction.

Newsbreak will be published on December 26 by Stackpole Books of Harrisburg, Pa. The new OPC volume, whose production was supervised by Stackpole executive vice president Clyde Peters, will be the first since Stackpole published *Heroes For Our Time* in 1968. As before, all royalties accrue to the Club, Yolen, a past President, served as editor of *Newsbreak*, with *Will Oursler*, also a past President as consulting editor, and *Wendell Sether* as associate editor. President *Jack Raymond* wrote the

(Continued on page 2)

MIDEAST STUDY SET FOR FEB. 8-25

Nineteen press clubs and other media organizations will participate in the 2nd Editorial Conference on the Middle East. The conference will include visits to Egypt, Israel, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan. The dates are: February 8-25.

The theme of the seventeen day, 12,000 mile journey will be "Is Peace A Realistic Possibility in the Middle East?" and will include press conferences and press briefings by political leaders in each of the countries visited.

Members of the Advisory Board for this conference include Carlton B. Goodlet, National Newspaper Publishers Association; Melvin Street, New

York Publishers Association; Kenneth Rystrom, National Conference of Editorial Writers; Maria Moreno, World Association of Women Journalists; and *Larry Stessin*, member of the Board of Governors of the Overseas Press Club of America.

The first Middle East Editorial Conference took place in June 1974 in which 20 members of the OPC participated with *Will Yolen*, former OPC President acting as head of the club's delegation.

Coordinator of the trip is Ms. Simone Bassous, 15 West 55th Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 and inquiries should be directed to her.

DECK HALLS WITH -- HO HO!

Hildegard Fillmore is decking the halls and *Ralph Leviton* is rounding up door prizes and coralling choristers — for the OPC's 1974 Holiday House Party on Thursday, December 19, 5:30-10 p.m. The convivial evening — to celebrate our first Christmas in our Biltmore home — is the perfect occasion to introduce friends and family to the Club and to each other, the perfect time to relax with old friends and new over a warm piano and a cool cup of cheer.

Tickets for aforementioned door prizes will go for a dollar each, which money will help pay for mailing notice

of party. Corporate Santa Claus will cover the difference, if any.

Plans for the party were just beginning as this *Bulletin* goes to press, but it can safely be said that the evening will hold pleasant surprises for one and all.

Reservations are essential if bar and food service is to go smoothly. Make yours today, with Mary Novick at 687-2430.

The Holiday House Party is the first of a series of projected parties. Any fun-and-games notions you have, will be welcome.

Ruth C. Biemiller,
Chairman, House Committee

REGIONAL REPORTS

FROM HONG KONG

By AL KAFF

China is reopening its gates to American newsmen after a year's drought on visas. Henry Bradsher, Hong Kong-based correspondent for the Washington Star, crossed the border to Canton in mid-October to cover China's autumn trade fair. Bradsher became the first American newsman allowed in China in one year.

Tom Gould, vice president of Canada's Commercial Television, told members of the Foreign Correspondents Club of Hong Kong that more Chinese visas will be issued to American newsmen by the end of this year or early next year.

Gould said he was quoting Chinese foreign ministry officials whom he talked with during a two-week visit to China in early October. Gould said Chinese officials told him that U.S. newsmen were not invited to China the past year because of a shortage of facilities and interpreters caused by the large number of visitors from other countries.

Bert Covit has just published the 6th edition of the Official Directory and Guide Book for Tahiti, a 351-page book in French and English illustrated in color. From Papeete, Tahiti, Bert reports that his wife Sara sold a short story to the BBC. The Covits plan to visit New York and the OPC next spring, his first trip back to the United States since 1961 and her first return since she was 10 years old.

Earnest Hoberecht, veteran foreign correspondent who directed UPI operations in Asia from the late 1940s until 1966, and his wife Mary Ann visited Hong Kong and Bangkok during October with a group of American tourists. Hoberecht, author of several books set in Asia, now is a businessman in Watonga, Oklahoma.

CBS has transferred Murray Fromson from Moscow to Hong Kong. Murray, wife Dodi and their two children, Lisa, 12, and Derek, 10, flew from Moscow to Tokyo via the trans-Siberian air route and then on to Hong Kong. Fromson, who worked nearly three years in Moscow, started his career as a foreign correspondent in Japan and Korea during the Korean War.

* * *

Barry Zorthian, U.S. government spokesman in Saigon during America's military buildup in the Vietnam War, believes the press needs more self-discipline and expert training.

"The press has got to take more time to prepare its correspondents for

covering complex stories such as Vietnam and the energy problem," Zorthian told a professional lunch in the Hong Kong Foreign Correspondents Club November 18. "Journalists should be given regular sabbaticals for study in specialized subjects."

Zorthian, now a vice president of Time Inc., added, "The press has excesses which it must retrain. It needs self-discipline which it has not displayed in any great amount in recent years."

At an earlier FCC lunch, U.S. Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott told newsmen that full diplomatic relations between the United States and Communist China may not develop until after the deaths of Communist Party Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Nationalist President Chiang Kai-shek.

Scott said full relations between Peking and Washington probably will have to "wait until another generation takes over."

FROM VIENNA

By F.H. BAER

Accused of having engaged in economic espionage since 1969, West German journalist Werner Gengenbach was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment in a non-public trial in Prague in October. With him a Czechoslovak citizen, a former ministry official, was sentenced to 5 years, a Czechoslovak woman to 3 years.

Werner Gengenbach, 62, resident of Vienna (Austria) worked for industrial, construction and metalworking business publications based in Guetersloh, Wuerzburg and Munich. Last year he served part of a term as secretary general of the Association of the Foreign Press here.

Gengenbach had accepted, as during the past five years, the invitation to a luncheon staged by the sponsors of Czechoslovakia's SALINA (foodstuffs industry) fair where pre-stamped free-stay invitations and pre-stamped visa applications assured unhindered travel to Brno, in Southern Czechoslovakia.

So far as is known from various reports, Gengenbach attended the press conference one day and was arrested on February 28, 1974. One woman and two men were arrested with him. Last week he faced the civil court, with two German diplomats attending as observers; he was defended by a Czechoslovak lawyer.

To members of the local press community, Gengenbach was a respected member whose name appeared on the masthead of several highly

'NEWSBREAK' . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

foreword and Yolen wrote the Editor's notes.

Newsbreak authors and their history-making subjects are: Lawrence Blochman (author) — "Discovery of Circulation of Blood"; the late Louis Cassels (UPI) — "Christopher Columbus Discovers America"; Leon Dennen (NEA) — "The Russian Revolution"; Morris L. Ernst (lawyer-author) — "Moses and Law and Order"; Roland Gammon (Editorial Communications) — "Buddha-Asia's Light of the World"; Kurt Lassen (Columbia Features) — "The Children's Crusade"; Dr. Ben Lieberman (Hill & Knowlton) — "Gutenberg and the Invention of the Printing Press".

Also included are the late John McAllister (Newsweek) — "The Tower of Babel"; Barrett McGurn (Information Director, U.S. Supreme Court) — "The Council of Trent"; William Morris (American Heritage Dictionary) — "The First Word"; John Wilhelm (Dean, College of Communications, Ohio University) — "A Word of Truth-Peter Zenger"; Will Oursler (author) — "Christ and the Resurrection"; Ralph Schulz (Editor, McGraw-Hill World News Service) — "Invention of the Wheel"; Sigrid Schultz (author) — "Hitler Comes to Power"; John Noble Wilford (N.Y. Times) — "Men Walk on the Moon"; Ansel Talbert (Interline Reporter/Travel Agent Magazines) — "Beginning of Powered Flight"; and Will J. Sparks (ITT Corp.) — "The Invention of Money". An additional chapter on "The Creation" was written by several news syndicate editors wire service "flash news" style. Three authors, Louis Cassell, Leon Dennen and John McAllister, have died since completing their assignments.

Autographed books will be sold at a 10 percent discount from the list price of \$7.95. Many of the authors will explain how they handled their assignments in a reverse-time cycle.

reputed German business publications. But now it is reported by DPA (German news agency) that he stood accused to have been an agent for West Germany's Bundesnachrichtendienst in return for a retainer of 2,500 DM per month.

Neither the trial nor its outcome has yet been reported in the Czech press. This may indicate distinctly planned motivation. It is felt that the Czechoslovak government wanted to raise a warning finger at future journalists visiting the country to "behave."

Naturally it's hoped that Gengenbach will be pardoned long before the ten-year term has been served.

NOSTALGIA, WHERE IS THY STING?

1st OPC HOME OPENING RECALLED

By DAVID RESNICK

Twenty years ago, during October and November 1954, the Overseas Press Club was busily engaged in moving out of small rented quarters in the Times Tower Building on Times Square and into its newly purchased Memorial Press Center building at 35 East 39th Street. The Dedication Day ceremonies on December 13 were "a tremendous success on all counts" and "the biggest story in OPC history", The Bulletin reported the following week.

The day began with formal ceremonies in the Memorial Library at 11 A.M. where plaques were unveiled honoring 82 correspondents who lost their lives while covering the news, and this was followed by a luncheon at which the speakers were Mayor Robert F. Wagner and Governor Averell Harriman. Bob Considine, then President of OPC, presided.

More than 500 members and guests attended the gala party at the Club which began at 5 P.M. and ended at midnight. An interesting sidelight on 1954 prices is the charge for the buffet dinner which was \$2.50. Larry

Blochman, the Hospitality Committee Chairman, had also arranged for free drinks to be served at 10 P.M.

From 8 to 9:30 P.M. there was an "OPC Spectacular" on NBC-TV entitled "Dateline", originating in both New York and Hollywood, as a benefit for the Memorial Press Center. After the broadcast, members of the cast came to the reception, and these included Ed Murrow, Past President John Daly, Sid Caesar, Bob Hope, Robert Sherwood, Richard Rodgers, Bill Gray, John Barkham, Fleur Cowles, and Bob Considine. Some of the other performers were club members Lowell Thomas, Ben Grauer, H. V. Kaltenborn, Larry Spivak, Manny Freedman, and Milton Coniff.

Before the NBC broadcast, the Club had raised \$250,000 toward purchase and renovation of the 39th Street building, and the television spectacular brought the amount raised to over \$300,000. The additional money was used for furnishings and improvements in the building which was owned in the name of the Correspondents Fund and leased to the Overseas Press Club on a 99-year lease.

CLASSIFIED ADS

AUTHOR WANTED with literary connections to reshape and rewrite three published books that are copyrighted and partially typed into one manuscript. It is a true story about the underworld but may be presented as fiction. Partnership basis only. If you like money, I have the story. Phone (212) 366-5678, John Puopolo, 1839 Norman Street, Ridgewood, Queens, N.Y. 11227.

WRITERS... How-to-do-it book, The Drama Publicist. Moneyback guarantee. \$5.00 from Pageant-Poseidon Press Ltd., 352 West Street, NYC 10014.

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EAT, DRINK WITH US AT OPC!

NEW MEMBERS

Active Resident

Jonathan M. Brickman - General Manager, Executive Vice-President, National News Service.

Colby Coates - Reporter, Commodity News Service.

Genevieve Millet Landau - Editor-in-Chief Parents' Magazine.

H. Lee Silberman - Editor-in-Chief, Finance Magazine.

Vincent John Schodolski - Reporter, Commodity News Services.

Camille Vickers - Self-employed photographer.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Associate Resident

J.J. McDonnell - Manager, Public Relations, Exxon Corp.

SPONSORS: Ed Cunningham, Meyer Lurie.

Joseph Marr - Editorial Controller, Newsweek.

SPONSORS: Charles Brophy, Ruth C. Biemiller.

Active Non-Resident

Samuel Schreiner - Free-lance.

SPONSORS: Edward Thompson, Joseph Blank.

Associate Non-Resident

Henry Schmidt - Self-employed.

SPONSORS: Henriette Kish, Frances Kish.

REINSTATEMENTS

Active Resident

Lisa Hoffman - Photographer, INA News Agency.

AMERICAN WOOD COUNCIL

is an alliance of trade associations and companies in the wood products industry. Its purpose is to conduct consumer promotion programs on a national, regional and local basis. The primary objective is to increase consumer awareness of and preference for wood products in residential construction. It has the additional responsibility for creating programs and activities to unify the industry's promotional efforts and create a focal point for the campaigns of member associations and companies.

Helping tell the story of the American Wood Council and other business leaders is the business of

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REPORT GELLMANN SHOWING IMPROVEMENT

Word was received at the Board meeting that former OPC Vice President Henry Gellermann is recuperating from a heart attack in Vienna. Mail may be addressed to him at his New York office, Bache & Co., 100 Gold Street, New York, N.Y. 10038, where he is a First Vice President.

SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER



THE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is published on the 1st and 15th of each month by the Overseas Press Club of America, Inc. Air-mailed to members overseas. First-class mail to others.

Bulletin Committee

Harry Rand, Chairman; **Helen Alpert**, **Ruth C. Biemiller**, **Charles H. Brown**, **Lawrence Klingman**, **Thomas J. Kraner**, **Grace Naismith**, **David Resnick**, **Susan F. Roberts**, **Ralph Salazar**, **J. Wendell Sether**.

The Bulletin is financially aided by the generous advertising support of Burson-Marsteller and Bache & Company.

SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER

OBITUARIES

Cornelius Ryan, an OPC member since 1947, whose hard-driving narratives of World War II battles enthralled millions of readers in the United States and Europe, died on November 23 of cancer at the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research. He was 54 years old.

Mr. Ryan, who lived in Ridgefield, Conn., has been ill since 1970. Despite several operations and continuing pain, he worked steadily to complete his last book, "A Bridge Too Far," second on the nonfiction best-seller list at the time of his death.

The Dublin-born author, who became an American citizen in 1950, had devoted readers all over the world. His three best-sellers about the war — "The Longest Day," "The Last Battle" and the current "A Bridge Too Far" — were all resounding successes. More than 10 million hard-cover copies of the first two, in more than 20 languages, were sold.

Maxwell D. Taylor, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, paid this tribute to Mr. Ryan: "He was a man who showed enormous feeling for the fighting soldier and recorded his hardships with an accuracy and realism seldom found in contemporary writers."

Cornelius Ryan was born on June 5, 1920. His formal schooling was limited to the Christian Brothers Academy and study of the violin in the Irish Academy of Music.

At the age of 20, Mr. Ryan went to London as secretary to Garfield Weston, a Member of Parliament. In 1941 he found a job with the Reuters news agency. In 1943 he moved to The London Daily Telegraph as a war correspondent. After the fall of Berlin, Mr. Ryan moved on to the Pacific and late in 1945 opened The Daily Telegraph bureau in Tokyo. He covered the atomic bomb tests in the Pacific and the war in Palestine for The Telegraph and Time magazine, and in 1947 came to New York as a staff writer for Time.

After a stint at Newsweek in 1950, he moved on to Collier's magazine, where he was associate editor until the publication folded in December, 1956. Since then he had been a roving correspondent for The Reader's Digest, but most of his time was spent on his books.

Mr. Ryan is survived by his widow, a son, and a daughter.

* * *

Lou Frankel, a public-relations executive with Doremus & Co., and a former OPC Governor, died on November 19 of cancer at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. He was 63 years old and lived in NYC.

In 1935, Mr. Frankel joined *Variety*,

REPORT BY ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE SUBMITTED

This is one of fifteen committee reports presented at the Board of Governors meeting on October 29, 1974. These reports have been condensed by OPC Secretary Helen Alpert and will be published in each issue of the Bulletin, depending on space availability.

The Admissions Committee's annual report (Oct. 1973 — Oct. 1974) shows 22 members' change of status, 106 resignations, 27 reinstatements, 100 new members.

Analysis of new members by category: 17 Active Overseas, 34 Active Residents, 8 Active Non-residents, 31 Associate Residents, 9 Associate Non-residents, 1 Affiliate.

Current membership: 224 Active Overseas; 292 Active Residents, 50 in retired status; 268 Active Non-

the show-business weekly, as a reporter of the Broadway scene. He later directed radio campaigns for W. Averell Harriman in his bid for the Democratic presidential nomination. He was also assistant director of radio and television for Adlai E. Stevenson when the Illinois Governor won the Democratic nomination for the Presidency in 1952. In World War II, Mr. Frankel was the only war correspondent accredited from a show-business publication. After the war, the Newspaper Guild of New York gave Mr. Frankel its Page One Award. He also received the Peabody Award for his work at radio station WHCH.

Before joining Doremus, he had been broadcast media director of Manning, Selvage & Lee, a public-relations agency.

He leaves his wife, two daughters, a brother, a sister, and two grandchildren.

residents, 14 retired; 338 Associate Residents, 31 retired; 301 Associate Non-residents, 11 retired; 15 Affiliates; 28 Honorary.

Total current membership: 1,572 including 106 retired and 28 Honorary.

Committee members: Norwood Allman, Anita Diamant Berke, Ed Cunningham, Meyer Lurie.

— Matt Bassity, Chairman

On behalf of all of us on the Bulletin Committee, best wishes for a most enjoyable Holiday Season!

Wherever

... you're stationed around the world, Bache probably has an office there—or in a city nearby.

Our local Managers are knowledgeable and ready to provide financial information you may need to complete an assignment.

Don't hesitate to contact them—or contact me—Henry Gellermann, First Vice President—in New York City at (212) 791-3826.

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